



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Edward M. Millane

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 154 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Reported by House Finance

Sponsor: Reps. R. Smith and Manning

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Establishes the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program and makes an appropriation

The bill creates the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program to provide a combination of grants and loans to qualified students enrolled in certified commercial driver's license (CDL) schools. The grant portion of the award is equal to 50% of the remaining state cost of attendance after the student's federal Pell grant and expected family contribution (EFC) are applied to the student's instructional and general fees, while the loan portion is equal to the grant amount. The bill specifies that these awards are in addition to any aid the student receives under the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) Program, which provides need-based financial aid to students. However, the loan amount is decreased by the OCOG amount a student receives.

The bill appropriates \$5.0 million in FY 2018 from GRF appropriation 235517, Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program, to support the program. The bill earmarks half of this appropriation for grants and the other half for loans. The bill also creates the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Fund to serve as a revolving loan fund for the program. This fund will receive loan repayments, which will be used to support additional loans and grants and the Department of Higher Education's administrative expenses related to the program.

The bill also requires the Chancellor of Higher Education to adopt rules establishing requirements for certification of a CDL school and the terms and conditions for loans under the program. The administrative responsibilities of the Department of Higher Education will increase to develop and adopt these rules and to administer the program.